

Predictions of Higher Prices While Brokers Continue to Urge Profit-Taking

BULL DAY IN THE STOCK MARKET WITH TRADERS HOPEFUL FOR QUICK RISE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The market showed a very slight change. There is but little doing and prices are just about where they were at 1 o'clock. The threatened strike of railmen is having some effect in restricting operations.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—During the morning hours there was no special activity in anything, traders showing a disposition to await the decision of the United States Supreme Court, although no decision particularly pertinent to the stock market was expected. While the volume of business was light, and the price fluctuations narrow, the prevailing sentiment on the Street, in brokers' offices, and among room traders generally, was that the market was next to certain to have a good rise between now and next Saturday—and a long line of stock is being held against this expected advance, that will be sold for Christmas money. News was extremely scarce.

It was announced that the scene for holding Steel common on the Paris Bourse had been abandoned, and the syndicate formed to take over the shares and exploit them in France, thus avoiding the tax on foreign corporations, has been dissolved. It is declared that the plan has not been finally abandoned, but that the scheme was, in all probability, and that it will be dormant until some better plan can be devised.

Despite this the powers that be are expected to hold the Steel shares fast as strongly as though our French cousins had taken their dose. Those who have bought Steel shares are held on to them through thick and thin have nothing to regret—except occasional heart failure that has been more than made up by future handsome profit.

The Moore party is now conspicuous and Rock Island continues moving toward higher levels on the belief that the stock is going to be given a prominent place in the next advance.

"Profits Should Be Taken." While the trading element and the men who execute orders are to a man bullish they follow their every prediction with the cautious signal, "profits should be taken." It does not seem as if any sharp advances could be scored with nine out of ten traders waiting for a chance to take profits.

London came in firm with special strength in the Harman group. Consols were firmer and the copper stocks acted better. The general market is gradually assuming a holiday character, when London will adjourn from Friday night till Tuesday morning, and will do little business next week, is gradually reducing the volume of trade there.

It is within the probabilities that the local stock market may begin to assume a holiday character, indeed the volume of business transacted today would indicate that it was well on toward just such a restricted period.

The Street has faith in Steel, and in some quarters the traders actually expect to see it reach par before Christmas. One thing noticeable is the tenacity with which it holds around 92, not moving much one way or the other.

As the session advanced there was some little activity here and there, but the market passed through the noon hour without showing signs of real activity. The price changes in the leading rails and industrials were generally insignificant.

Price Changes. Southern Pacific, St. Paul, and Union Pacific were practically where they closed on Saturday. Attention was called to the decline in the Atlantic Coast Line, and the fact that a few of the Y. & N. E. declines sustained of less importance.

On the especially strong side of the list, leading held firm, and the market was 100 to 175 as compared with a closing at 170 on Saturday. Chesapeake and Ohio and Walshaw preferred and Rock Island issues, made good advances.

WILLIAM L. AGNEW COMMENTS SUICIDE

William L. Agnew, forty-five years old, who lived at 782 Maryland street northwest, and was employed as chief of the plate vaults of the Government Printing Office, committed suicide shortly after noon today by shooting himself through the head.

Mr. Agnew had been suffering for several months from insomnia, and recently was subject to spells of despondency. During the morning the police were associated with him in his work at the Government Printing Office, and he was unusually morose and dependent, and during the morning hours before lunch he had but few words with anybody in the office.

During the lunch hour Mr. Agnew went to the basement of the building and making his way to a storeroom, where there were no one to interfere with him, shot himself.

He was immediately removed in an ambulance to the Casualty Hospital, where he died.

Mr. Agnew lived with his aged mother.

SENATE CONFIRMS JUSTICE LURTON

Horace E. Lurton, of Tennessee, was today confirmed by the Senate as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. There was no opposition expressed and the appointment went through as a matter of routine.

It is expected Justice Lurton will take the oath and sit on the Supreme bench when the tobacco cases come up for argument January 3.

The opposition to Judge Lurton, because of his advanced age and supposed obnoxious labor decisions, flattered out since the confirmation of the Senate. The progressive Republicans, who comprised the opposition, examined the decisions and found them less objectionable than heretofore believed. It was decided to offer no organized antagonism, and no Senator saw fit to take the matter personally.

The fact that the Democratic Senators were in favor of confirming Judge Lurton was the determining feature in the situation. Most of them were pleased with the opportunity to get a Democrat on the bench at this time, believing it is important in view of the numerous important cases in which the Constitution most shortly be construed with reference to the conflict between State and Federal powers over commerce.

PRICES TODAY ON NEW YORK EXCHANGE

RAILROADS.

	1.00	50	25	10	5	2 1/2	1	1/2	3/4	1/4	1/8	1/16	1/32	1/64	1/128	1/256	1/512	1/1024	1/2048	1/4096	1/8192	1/16384	1/32768	1/65536	1/131072	1/262144	1/524288	1/1048576	1/2097152	1/4194304	1/8388608	1/16777216	1/33554432	1/67108864	1/134217728	1/268435456	1/536870912	1/1073741824	1/2147483648	1/4294967296	1/8589934592	1/17179869184	1/34359738368	1/68719476736	1/137438953472	1/274877906944	1/549755813888	1/1099511627776	1/2199023255552	1/4398046511104	1/8796093022208	1/17592186044416	1/35184372088832	1/70368744177664	1/140737488355328	1/281474976710656	1/562949953421312	1/1125899906842624	1/2251799813685248	1/4503599627370496	1/9007199254740992	1/18014398509481984	1/36028797018963968	1/72057594037927936	1/144115188075855872	1/288230376151711744	1/576460752303423488	1/1152921504606846976	1/2305843009213693952	1/4611686018427387904	1/9223372036854775808	1/18446744073709551616	1/36893488147419103232	1/73786976294838206464	1/147573952589676412928	1/295147905179352825856	1/590295810358705651712	1/1180591620717411303424	1/2361183241434822606848	1/4722366482869645213696	1/9444732965739290427392	1/18889465931478580854784	1/37778931862957161709568	1/75557863725914323419136	1/151115727451828646838272	1/302231454903657293676544	1/604462909807314587353088	1/1208925819614629174706176	1/2417851639229258349412352	1/4835703278458516698824704	1/9671406556917033397649408	1/19342813113834066795298816	1/38685626227668133590597632	1/77371252455336267181195264	1/154742504910672534362390528	1/309485009821345068724781056	1/618970019642690137449562112	1/1237940039285380274899124224	1/2475880078570760549798248448	1/4951760157141521099596496896	1/9903520314283042199192993792	1/19807040628566084398385987584	1/39614081257132168796771975168	1/79228162514264337593543950336	1/158456325028528675187087900672	1/316912650057057350374175801344	1/633825300114114700748351602688	1/1267650600228229401496703205376	1/2535301200456458802993406410752	1/5070602400912917605986812821504	1/10141204801825835211973625643008	1/20282409603651670423947251286016	1/40564819207303340847894502572032	1/81129638414606681695789005144064	1/162259276829213363911578010288128	1/324518553658426727823156020576256	1/64903710731685345564631204115328	1/129807421463370691129262408230656	1/259614842926741382258524816461312	1/519229685853482764517049632922624	1/1038459371706965529034099265845248	1/2076918743413931058068198531690496	1/4153837486827862116136397063380992	1/8307674973655724232272794126761984	1/1661534994731144846454558825353984	1/3323069989462289692909117650707968	1/6646139978924579385818235301415936	1/13292279957849158771636470602831872	1/26584559915698317543272941205663744	1/5316911983139663508654588241132768	1/10633823966279327017309176482265344	1/21267647932558654034618352964530688	1/42535295865117308069236705929061376	1/85070591730234616138473411858122752	1/170141183460469232276846823716245504	1/340282366920938464553693647432491008	1/680564733841876929107387294864982016	1/1361129467683753858214744589729964032	1/2722258935367507716429489179459928064	1/5444517870735015432858978358919856128	1/10889035741470030865717956717839712512	1/21778071482940061731435913435679425024	1/43556142965880123462867826871358850048	1/8711228593176024692573565374271770016	1/1742245718635204938514713074854354032	1/3484491437270409877029426149708708064	1/6968982874540819754058852299417416128	1/1393796574908163950811704558834832256	1/2787593149816327901623409117776672512	1/5575186299632655803246818235553345024	1/111503725992653116064936364711066890496	1/223007451985306232129872737422133780992	1/44601490397061246425974547484426751984	1/89202980794122492851949094968853503744	1/17840596158824498570389818993770700768	1/35681192317648997140779637987541401536	1/7136238463529799428155927597508280288	1/14272476927059598856311855195165616576	1/28544953854119197712623710390331233152	1/57089907708238395425247420780662662624	1/11417981541647679085049484156132532512	1/22835963083295358170098968312265065024	1/45671926166590716340197936624530130048	1/91343852333181432680395873249060260096	1/182687704666362865360791746498120520192	1/36537540933272573072038349299624104384	1/73075081866545146144076698599248208768	1/146150163733090292288153397198496417536	1/29230032746618058457630679439699283072	1/58460065493236116915321358879398566144	1/11692013098647223383064271777879712288	1/23384026193294446766128543557559424576	1/46768052386588893532257087115118849152	1/93536104773177787064514174230237698304	1/187072209546355574129028348460475396608	1/374144419092711148258056696920950793216	1/748288838185422296516113383841901586432	1/1496577676370844593032226767683803172864	1/2993155352741689186064453535367606345728	1/598631070548337837212890707073521271456	1/1197262141096675674425781414147042542816	1/2394524282193351348851562828294085085312	1/4789048564386702697703125656588170016256	1/957809712877340539540625131317634032512	1/1915619425754681079081250262635268064	1/3831238851509362158162500525270536128	1/7662477703018724316325001050541072256	1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